## REMARKS

Courtesies extended to Applicant and Applicant's representatives during the telephone interview of the above-identified matter held October 6, 2005, are acknowledged with appreciation.

As discussed during the telephone interview, in accordance with the present invention, there are provided methods for analyzing complex protein mixtures employing activity based probes (which specifically identify active target proteins). Invention methods are useful for a variety of purposes including provision of diagnostic information concerning pathogenic states, identification of proteins that may act as therapeutic targets, drug discovery, and the like.

No amendments are submitted by this communication. Thus, claims 1-4, 6, 8-10, 13 and 37-48 remain pending in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application is presented herewith, beginning on page 2, along with an appropriate status identifier.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's identification of additional, potentially relevant art in the recently conducted follow up search of the presently claimed invention. Neither of these references is applicable against the present claims for the following reasons.

With respect to Published Application 2003/0134303 to Campbell, et al., the published application is not prior art. The present application and the Campbell application both claim priority to the same application (i.e., 60/339,424), and have the same priority date (i.e., 12/11/2001). Thus, while the filing date of Campbell (08/05/2002) is earlier than that of the present application (10/21/2002), the Examiner's attention is directed to the priority claim of the present application, which claims priority to Provisional Patent Application Nos. 60/266,687, (filed 02/05/2002), and 60/339,424, (filed 12/11/2001).

With respect to Published Application 2002/0045194 to Cravatt et al., which discloses, *inter alia*, activity based probes which include a fluorescent group as a detectable label, the published application is not prior art to the present invention. Matthew Patricelli, the inventor of the present invention, was named as a co-inventor on both the Cravatt patent application, and also the earliest Cravatt priority document, i.e., U.S. provisional application 60/195,954, filed April 10, 2000.

Furthermore, Applicant's status as a co-inventor on U.S. Provisional Application 60/195,954, as well as the Affidavit of Matthew Patricelli under 37 CRF 1.131 submitted herewith, demonstrate Applicant's conception of the invention (i.e., coupling fluorescent labels to activity based probes) prior to the filing date of the earliest priority document, i.e., April 10, 2000. Specifically, at p. 3, lines 5-28, the Cravatt provisional application describes activity based probes which include a detectable label (i.e., a fluorescent compound, e.g., fluorescein, rhodamine, Texas red, etc...). Additional discussion of the use of fluorescent compounds as detectable labels is provided at lines 13-17, p. 7 of the Cravatt provisional application, wherein differentiation of proteins can be accomplished detecting a distinguishable signal, such as for example, fluorescence at a different wavelength. Furthermore, the synthesis of compounds having a fluorescent label was described in the Cravatt provisional application at lines 4-7, p. 14. An exemplary probe compound which includes a detectable fluorescent label is shown in Figure 5. Thus, Applicant was clearly in possession of the invention claimed herein prior to the effective date of Published Application 2002/0045194. Accordingly, Published Application 2002/0045194 is not prior art to the present invention.



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In view of the remarks provided herein, and the Affidavit submitted herewith, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. In the event any matters remain to be resolved in view of this communication, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned so that a prompt disposition of this application can be achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 14, 2005

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